GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2283
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2003
AMENDMENTS IN UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION ACT
BHASKAR RAO PATIL;GADDE RAMAMOHAN;NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;SHYAMA SINGH;T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has been actively considering to bring amendments in the UGC Actto tone up the administration of universities as reported in the Hindu dated 22 November, 2003;

(b) if so, the details and facts thereof;

(c) whether the administration of universities would be strengthened for improving education system and regulate the entry of foreign universities in India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government is considering to review the working of "deemed to be" and private universities;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government is also considering to make changes in the method of implementation of schemes to promote studies in basic and pure sciences; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR.VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA)

(a) to (d): A proposal to amend the UGC Act is under consideration of the Government.

(e) & (f): Revision of guidelines relating to the award of deemed to be university status, is under consideration of the Government. However, the UGC has issued regulations for establishment and maintenance of standards in private universities.

(g) & (h): The UGC has been operating certain schemes, viz. SpecialAssistance Programme (SAP), Assistance for Strengthening of Infrastructure in Scienceand Technology (ASIST),Inter-UniversityCentres (IUCs),National Lectureship, etc. to promote studies and research in basic and pure sciences. There is, however, no proposal at present to make any changes in these schemes.